

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Review Item:

701 KAR 5:110, Use of Local Monies to Reduce Unmet Technology Need

Applicable Statute or Regulation:

KRS 156.666, KRS 156.670, KRS 156.690, KRS 157.655, KRS 157.660, KRS 157.665

History/Background:

Existing Policy. 701 KAR 5:110 (Attachment A) incorporates the Master Plan for Education Technology by reference by date of revision. The new Master Plan is being presented to the Kentucky Board of Education to show planned activities and initiatives for the period from 2007 to 2012. Therefore, the administrative regulation must be amended to reflect the new Master Plan. The new Master Plan is included for the Board's review and comment as Attachment B. Both the regulation and new Master Plan are coming to the Board in December for review. Consideration of final approval will occur at the February meeting.

The Kentucky Education Technology System (KETS) 2007-2012 Master Plan for Education Technology highlights the integration of instruction with educational technology to transform the way curriculum is taught and provides students with ready access to technology, both inside and outside of the classrooms. The driving force behind the Master Plan is ensuring that student classroom performance and their preparedness for higher education, military and workforce is kept at the forefront of any educational initiative that involves technology. We have moved far past the time of implementing technology for technology's sake or as a system that does not have direct connections with teaching, learning, productivity, student work, communications, decision making and leadership.

The Plan includes four areas of emphasis:

- Anytime, Anywhere, Always On Differentiated Teaching and Learning
- Data Driven Decision Making for Teachers and Administrators
- Capacity Building and Enhancement of Staff and Resources
- Efficiency and Governance

The KETS Master Plan describes how education technology will be used to improve teaching and learning for every child in Kentucky. Its goals are to ensure equity and ease of access to technology, enhance the learning experience in the classroom for students and prepare Kentucky's students to work in the Information Age once they graduate.

The goal of the KETS Master Plan 2007-2012 is to build on the state's past successes. This plan illustrates the path that will enable all students to become capable of understanding and leveraging technology. Education technology can provide students with the opportunity to realize their full potential. It extends instructional content beyond traditional school walls and leads students to where every opportunity is open to them.

The Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) has identified many strategic educational initiatives that are ultimately aimed at advancing the learning proficiency of the student population within the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Within this master plan is a carefully planned vision, formed by overarching ideas, each comprised of clear initiatives that are intended to improve teaching, learning, efficiency, statewide collaboration and transparency to parents and the community. These initiatives illustrate the necessary steps that will elevate the students of Kentucky toward the leading edge of technology in the years to come.

More than any prior KETS Master Plan, this design has received input from focus groups, ranging from students, university admissions staff, district teachers, district leaders, technology resource teachers, state agency leadership and the business community.

Groups Consulted and Brief Summary of Responses:

- Commissioner's Technology Advisory Council
- Kentucky Society of Technology in Education
- Gartner, Inc.
- A large variety of district representatives (e.g., Superintendents, Curriculum Supervisors, Finances Officers, Directors of Pupil Personnel, District Assessment Coordinators, Counselors, Education Technology leaders, teachers) were consulted and types of districts (e.g., large, medium, small, rural, urban, east, west, north, south) were selected as sample districts. An in-depth analysis from the following districts occurred: Ballard, Carter, Casey, Fayette, Laurel, Logan, McLean, Pike, and Scott Counties and Williamstown Independent.
- KDE Commissioner, Deputy Commissioners, and Associate Commissioners
- Student Technology Leadership Program including teachers, parents, and students
- Every district's education technology leadership staff (e.g., Chief Information Officers, District Technology Coordinators, Chief Education Technology Officer)
- Assessment Interest Group
- Administration and Finance Interest Group
- Communications Interest Group
- Teaching and Learning Interest Group
- Education Technology Vendors
- Former students, Connect Kentucky, and College Admissions Office staff

There was a recognition and appreciation that the KETS Master Plan was created using a long-term vision, as well as school, district and state collaboration on initiatives. The feedback from the groups consulted generally indicated that this plan was on target in representing and prioritizing the educational initiatives involving technology.

Impact on Getting to Proficiency:

In today's environment, improved technology must be a key support and tool for moving students to proficiency.

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Recommending Deputy

Interim Commissioner of Education

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